

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NICOSI 01790 181453Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----072490 181456Z /53

P R 181422Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8014  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1790

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, PGOV, CY  
SUBJECT: CALL ON PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU

1. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU CALLED ME TO HIS OFFICE MORNING JULY 18 AND HANDED ME XEROXED COPY OF WRITTEN STATEMENT IN ENGLISH SIGNED BY LARNACA ASSISTANT AIRPORT MANAGER THEO G. PAPAPETROU. STATEMENT REPORTS ON ALLEGED ACTIVITIES OF FORMER FRG DCM KURBUJHN DURING LARNACA AIRPORT INCIDENT. FULL TEXT OF STATEMENT BEING TRANSMITTED SEPTEL. IN RELATED CONTEXT, THE PRESIDENT COMMENTED THAT HE WAS NOW BEGINNING TO WONDER IF THE ASSASSINS BELONG TO THE BLACK SEPTEMBER ORGANIZATION RATHER THAN ONE OF THE OTHER PALESTINIAN GROUPS.

2. THE PRESIDENT ASKED THAT THE CONTENTS OF THE STATEMENT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO PRESIDENT CARTER AND ALSO THAT WE MAKE IT AVAILABLE TO PRESIDENT SADAT, APPARENTLY IN THE BELIEF THAT THIS INFORMATION MIGHT CONTRIBUTE IN SOME WAY TO THE RESTORATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN EGYPT AND CYPRUS.

3. I INDICATED I WOULD TRANSMIT THE DOCUMENT TO WASHINGTON BUT MADE NO COMMITMENT IT WOULD BE PASSED TO PRESIDENT SADAT. THEN, CONFIDENTIAL

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REFERRING TO OUR JULY 14 CONVERSATION, I TOLD HIM THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS REQUEST, I HAD HAD CHECKS MADE ON PRINCESS ZENA GUNTHER AND THAT THESE HAD NOT TURNED UP ANY INFORMATION BEYOND WHAT I BELIEVED WAS ALREADY KNOWN TO HIS INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, NAMELY, THAT THE WOMAN HAD MARRIED THE SON OF THE FOUNDER OF THE CYPRUS MINES CORP. AND HAD MANAGED TO HAVE ACCESS TO SUBSTANTIAL FUNDS THROUGH HER WEALTHY HUSBAND.

I CONFIRMED THAT SHE WAS IN FACT AN AMERICAN CITIZEN. THE PRESIDENT SAID HE WAS AWARE OF THIS.

4. AS I WAS LEAVING THE PRESIDENT SAID: QTE: I HOPE YOU ARE NOT TURNING OVER RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS AREA TO THE GERMANS. WE WANT YOU HERE. END QTE. I TOLD HIM THAT WE WERE VERY MUCH HERE.

5. COMMENT: I AM INFORMED THAT PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU WAS UP ALL NIGHT FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO THE ALLEGED CONSPIRACY. ASSUMING THIS INFORMATION IS CORRECT, HE DID NOT LOOK TOO BADLY THOUGH HE WAS MORE TENSE AND NERVOUS THAN ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS.

6. WHILE IT IS SOMEWHAT STRANGE THAT KURBJUHN, WHO HAD ALREADY RETIRED FROM THE GERMAN DIPLOMATIC SERVICE AND HAD BEEN REPLACED, SHOULD HAVE BEEN SO ACTIVE DURING THE LARNACA AIRPORT INCIDENT, IT IS NOT INCONCEIVABLE THAT HE WAS ASKED TO COVER DEVELOPMENTS THERE BY THE CHARGE SINCE THE FRG EMBASSY WAS SHORTHANDED AT THE TIME. IT COULD WELL BE HE WAS MERELY REPORTING DEVELOPMENTS TO HIS EMBASSY JUST AS TWO OFFICERS OF THIS EMBASSY WERE DOING AT THE TIME.

7. NONE OF THE EMBASSY PERSONNEL WHO WAS AT LARNACA AT THE TIME RECALLS SEEING KURBJUHN AND THEY TEND TO BE CONFIDENTIAL

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SKEPTICAL OF ASSISTANT AIRPORT MANAGER'S STATEMENT, SINCE THEY CONSIDER HIM TYPE WHO COULD WELL ACT PURELY TO INGRATIATE HIMSELF WITH TOP-LEVEL OFFICIALS. END COMMENT  
STONE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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